



(12) **United States Patent**
Corthell

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(54) **METHODS, SOFTWARE, AND APPARATUS FOR SECURE COMMUNICATION OVER A COMPUTER NETWORK**

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(*) Notice: Under 35 U.S.C. 154(b), the term of this patent shall be extended for 0 days.

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(52) U.S. Cl. **713/201; 380/49**

(58) **Field of Search** 713/201, 200, 713/202; 380/4, 23, 25, 30, 42, 49; 340/825.31, 825.34

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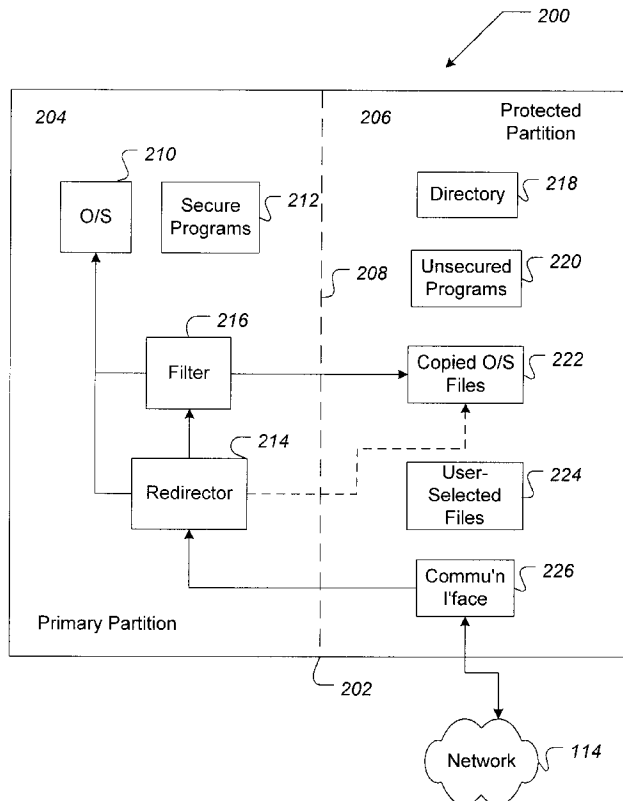
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for performing secure communication between a first user's computer and second remote computer over a computer network is described. According to one embodiment of this aspect, the data space of the first computer is partitioned into a first secure portion and a second network interface portion. Communication is established between the first and a second computer, and redirection and filter mechanisms are initialized. An instruction is received by the first computer, analyzed by the redirection mechanism, and passed to the filter if the instruction is a protected instruction. The protected instruction is verified by the filter and processed if the verification is successful.

33 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets



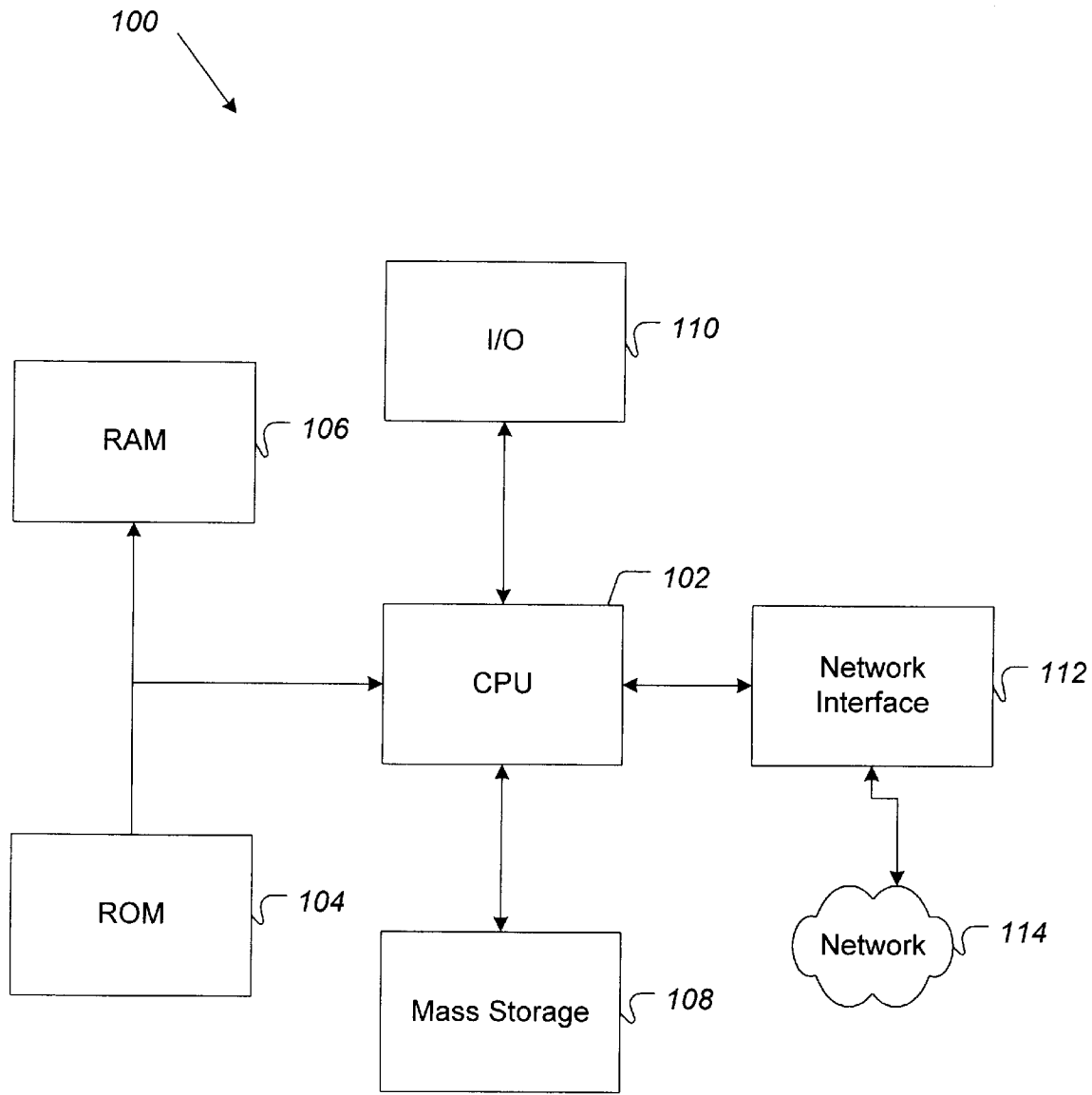


Figure 1

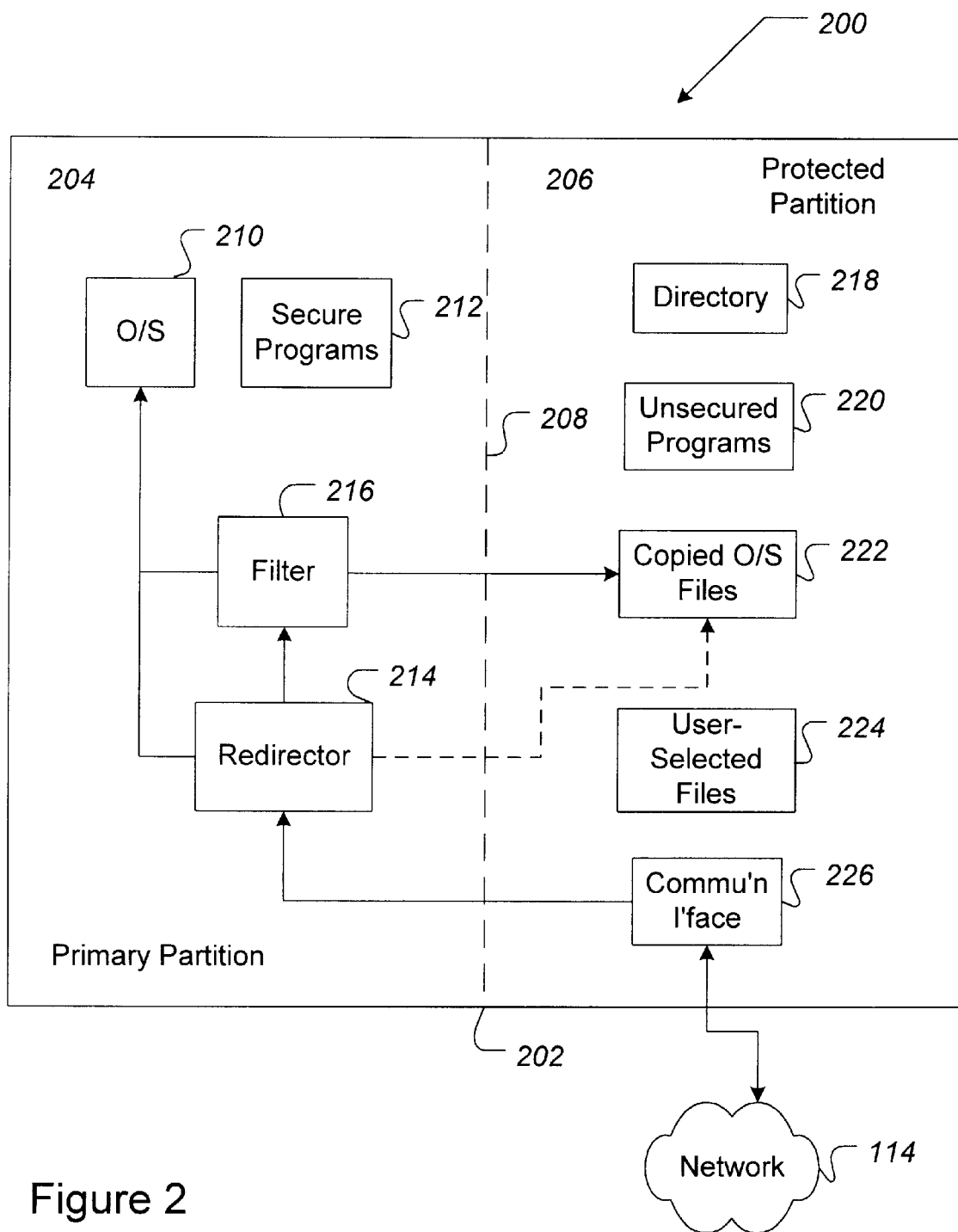


Figure 2

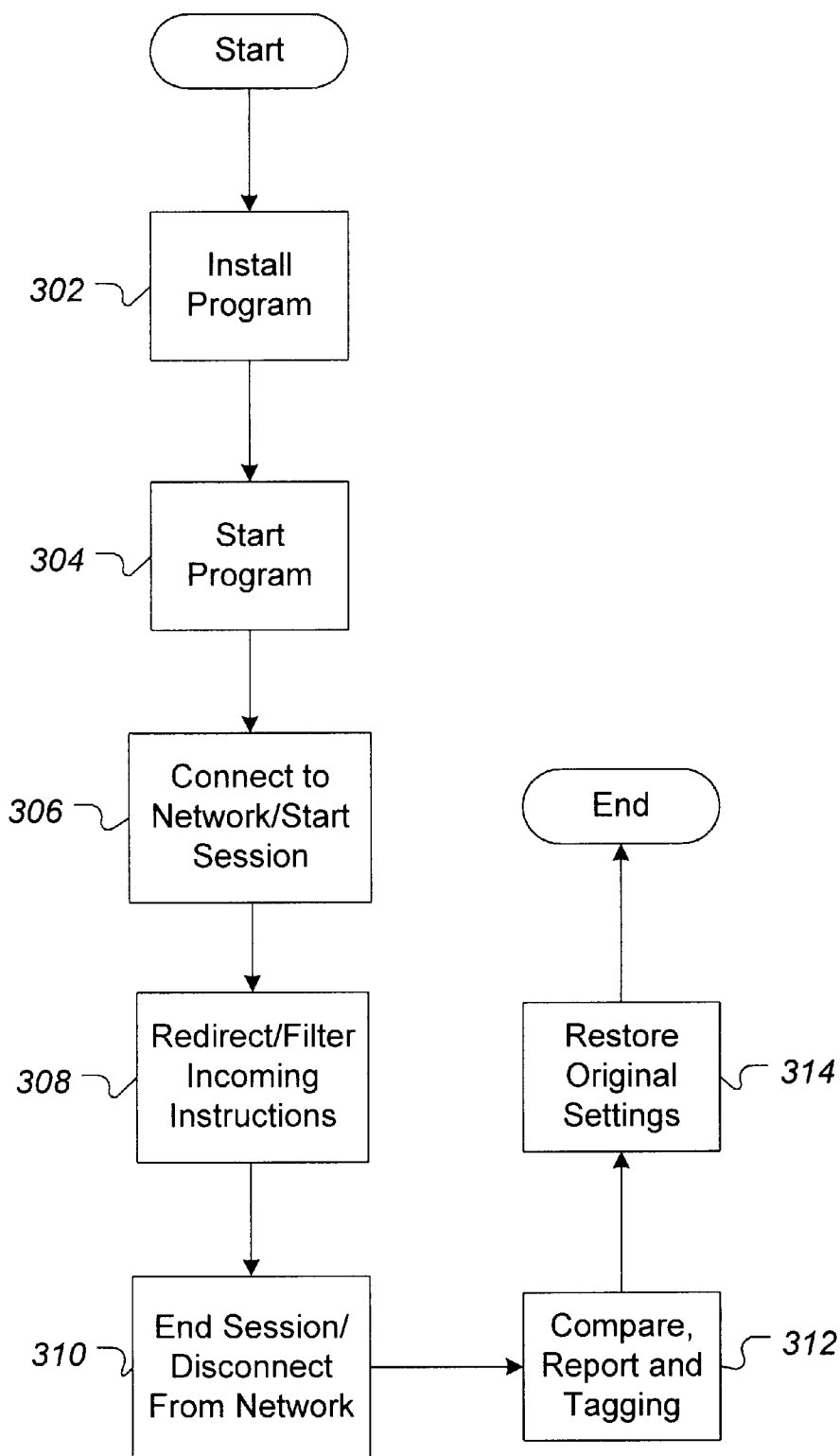


Figure 3

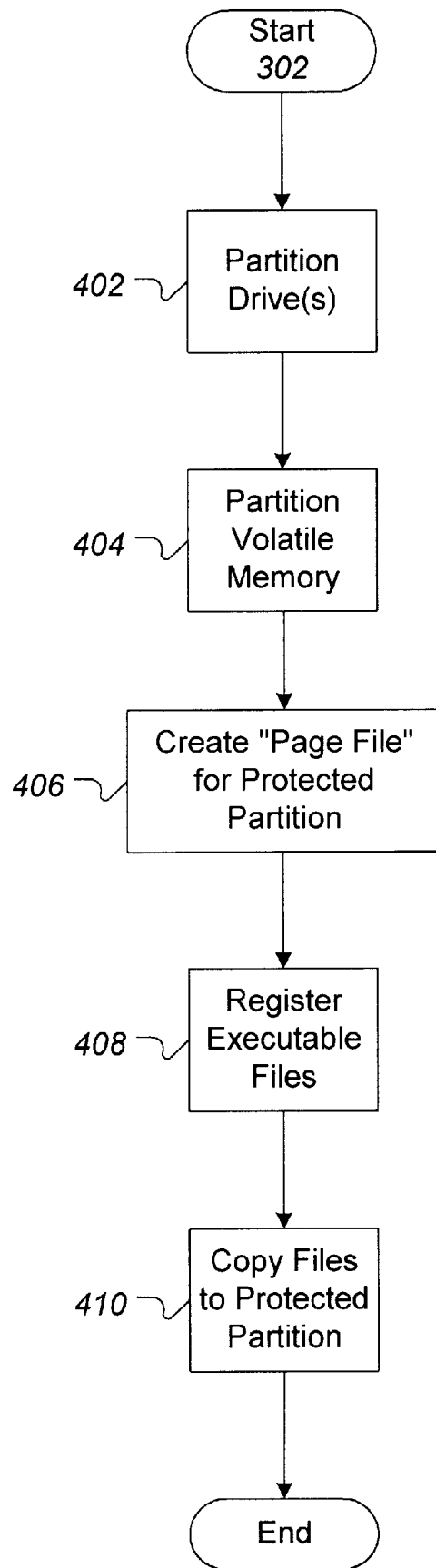


Figure 4

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